



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 027452/0102

Applicant: Erick B. KNEZEK et al.
Title: PROTECTION BARRIER APPARATUS
Serial No.: 10/621,655
Filed: July 18, 2003
Examiner: Unknown
Art Unit: 3673

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and 37 CFR §1.97**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-SB08 is a list of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any documents which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is believed to be filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (first scenario). If that is not the case, such as in a second scenario in which a first Office Action on the merits has been mailed before the filing of the instant Information Disclosure Statement, then either a certification or fee is required, and a certification is provided below. If neither of the first or second scenarios is the case, such as if a final Office Action or a notice of allowance has been mailed by the PTO (third scenario), then both a certification and fee are required, and in that case a certification is provided below and also the PTO is authorized to obtain the necessary fee to have the instant IDS considered, from Foley & Lardner Deposit Account #19-0741.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Documents A1-A11 were listed in an International Search Report for a counterpart PCT application. A copy of the International Search Report is also being provided herewith.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form-SB08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

December 30, 2003
Date

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: December 30, 2003 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Application Number</td> <td>10/0621,655</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>July 18, 2003</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Erick B. KNEZEK</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group Art Unit</td> <td>3673</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Unassigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>027452-0102</td> </tr> </table>		Application Number	10/0621,655	Filing Date	July 18, 2003	First Named Inventor	Erick B. KNEZEK	Group Art Unit	3673	Examiner Name	Unassigned	Attorney Docket Number	027452-0102
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	2,369,464		J. KALNITZ	12/27/1943	
	A2	3,952,521		POTTER	04/27/1976	
	A3	4,562,785		PRIAM-DOIZI	01/07/1986	
	A4	4,961,393		MURRAY	10/09/1990	
	A5	6,003,458		VALLIERE	12/21/1999	
	A6	2003/0051652		METHERELL et al.	03/20/2003	
	A7	2003/0136325		WOOLEY et al.	07/24/2003	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A8	GB	1,136,333			12/11/1968		
	A9	DE	2537739			03/03/1977		
	A10	DE	19635824			03/05/1998		
	A11	GB	2375739			11/27/2002		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.